



**Arab Civitas –
Strengthening Civic Education in Nine Arab Countries**

**Quarterly Programmatic Report
April – June 2005**

Under Leader Award No. GEG-A-00-01-00005-00

Submitted by Pact on behalf of
The Center for Civic Education

As indicated in the corresponding quarterly financial report, the total amount expensed under this sub-award to date is \$1,102,990. This figure accurately represents amounts reported to Pact for the period ending May 31, 2005.

I. Executive Summary

Regional

During the reporting period, the Regional Office organized the first two Arab Civitas regional training workshops: a Project Citizen workshop in Cairo, Egypt, December 12-19, 2004 and a Foundations of Democracy workshop in Casablanca, Morocco January 11-19, 2005.

In addition, the Board of Directors strengthened Arab Civitas' international and inter-agency relationships by sending representatives to the Educating the Young for Active Citizenship workshop in Malaysia, the MEPI Student Leaders Conference in Tunisia, a Wilton Park Conference on building participatory governance in the Middle East, a Divided Societies Workshop in Northern Ireland on the use of civic education to address the problems of social conflict, and a childhood issues seminar in the United Arab Emirates.

Within the nine Arab Civitas countries, activities ranged from fact-finding visits and in-country NGO establishment in the younger country programs to continued implementation of Project Citizen and Foundations of Democracy trainings in the more established programs. Other activities included establishing partnerships with local NGOs and ministries of education, adaptation and publication of curricular materials, and forming local committees to support civic education programs.

(Note: As the previous quarterly program report addressed only activities in Algeria, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia, the current report includes activities from the previous two quarters, January-March and April-June.)

II. Background

The Center for Civic Education, in close partnership with educators, Ministry of Education officials, and NGO leaders in the Arab Middle East, has established a new and vibrant network of NGOs focused on civic education. The Arab Civitas network is currently implementing civic education programs in classrooms at elementary and secondary school levels in nine Arab countries and is prepared to begin projects for Saudi Arabia.

The programs focus on developing among students an understanding of the fundamental values, principles, and institutions of constitutional democracy; fostering a reasoned commitment to these values and principles; developing the knowledge, skills, and attitudes required for competent and responsible participation in democratic government.

Curricular materials developed by CCE have been translated into Arabic and adapted for use in Jordan, the West Bank, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Yemen, Tunisia, Algeria, and Bahrain. CCE's *Project Citizen* and *Foundations of Democracy* curricula form the backbone of these adapted programs.

III. Key Results This Period

Regional

Regional Workshops

The Regional Office, in cooperation with country coordinators, organized the first Arab Civitas regional training workshops in Egypt and Morocco. In these workshops, Kenneth Rodriguez and Michael Fischer, two of the Center's most experienced trainers, conducted practical training in Project Citizen and Foundations of Democracy curriculum and methodology. The Project Citizen workshop was held December 12-19, 2004 in Cairo, Egypt and included 31 participants from all nine Arab Civitas countries, including three participants independently funded by the Jordanian Ministry of Political Development. The Foundations of Democracy workshop was held January 11-19, 2005 in Casablanca, Morocco and included 29 participants from eight countries. It was extensively and accurately covered in newspapers and on national television news.

World Congress on Civic Education

Arab Civitas and the Jordanian Center for Civic Education Studies, along with the Center, co-hosted the Ninth Annual World Congress on Civic Education in Amman, Jordan June 2-6, 2005 at Le Meridien Amman. The purpose of the World Congress is to share best practices and materials in education for democracy developed through the Civitas Program. This year's theme was Advancing Peace and Stability through Active Citizenship, and highlights of the conference included presentations on the programs of each Arab Civitas country, as well as a Jordanian student demonstration of Project Citizen portfolios. Approximately 160 civic education leaders from 28 states and 58 countries attended this event. The event received extensive coverage in the local media.

International conference participation

The Board of Directors sent representatives to key international workshops and conferences in Malaysia, Tunisia, England, Northern Ireland, and the United Arab Emirates.

Mr. Elarbi Imad, the President of the Arab Civitas Board of Directors, represented Arab Civitas at the Educating the Young for Active Citizenship workshop in Penang, Malaysia December 11-13, 2004. There, he introduced the Arab Civitas network model and answered questions about the organization and operations of Arab Civitas for program coordinators in Asian countries. Mr. Imad also gave a presentation on Arab Civitas and Project Citizen at the MEPI Student Leaders Conference in Tunis, Tunisia January 3-5, 2005.

On March 7-10, 2005, Ms. Muna Darwish, Regional Director, and Mr. Imad represented Arab Civitas at the 779th Wilton Park Conference in England, where Ms. Darwish presented a paper entitled "What Educational Policies are Needed for Promoting Tolerance and Embracing Diversity."

Ms. Darwish and Ms. Roula Mikhael, Lebanon's country coordinator, attended the Center's Divided Societies Workshop in Belfast, Northern Ireland on March 12-16, 2005. They presented the history of Lebanon as a divided society and how civic education programs could be an important instrument to establish a culture of citizenship and unity in such a volatile society.

Ms. Mikhael also attended a seminar on childhood issues organized by UNICEF and the Arab Institute for Human Rights in Dubai, United Arab Emirates December 5-8, 2004.

Publication of Foundations of Democracy materials

The Regional Office completed the translation, adaptation and publication of Foundations of Democracy materials through an Arab Book Program grant from the U.S. Embassy in Amman. A copy of these materials was distributed to participants at the regional Foundations of Democracy workshop in Casablanca.

Algeria

No major programmatic activity occurred in Algeria during this quarter. A new coordinator has yet to be named since the Center and Arab Civitas informed former country coordinator Dr. Ibrahim of the change in arrangements in March 2005.

Jay Taylor, Arab Civitas Program Manager, and Muna Darwish, Arab Civitas Regional Director, made separate support visits to Algiers. Meetings were also conducted with the Algerian Ambassador to the U.S., the Public Affairs Officer in Algiers, the Director of Curriculum for the Ministry of Education, and local journalists.

A staff visit is now scheduled for July to evaluate options for restarting the program in Algeria.

Bahrain

Though Bahrain continues to wait for approval from the Ministry of Education in order to establish an NGO, training in Project Citizen was conducted for 33 teachers, subject coordinators, and curriculum development specialists in August. In addition, the Bahrain program created adaptations of the Project Citizen curriculum and two of the Foundations of Democracy books.

Egypt

The Taha Hussein Association for Civic Education (THACE) has increased its collaboration with organizations in various regions for training and implementation of Project Citizen. THACE has signed collaboration agreements with the following NGOs: the General Assembly of Catholic Schools, Better Life Association, Tanweer Association, Keema (El-Ard El-Samraa) Association, and the Association for Social Preparation.

There are now 49 civic education clubs in 10 cities: Cairo, Giza, Qalubeya, Menofeya, Bani Sueif, Menya, Luxor, Qena, Aswan, and Red Sea. These clubs have reached 1518 students. In each of the ten districts where the Center's programs are implemented, local committees have been formed to support and facilitate THACE's programs. Each committee has five to six members including representatives from the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Social Affairs, local school administrators and teachers, NGO groups, and THACE.

Training for Catholic school teachers began with a workshop in Hurghuda, December 28-31, for nineteen teachers from nine schools in Upper Egypt. Each teacher then trained four additional teachers. Thirty-five teachers from Menya and Bani Sueif attended a Project Citizen workshop November 18-19. On November 28-29, THACE also trained 53 teachers from fourteen schools

in Cairo and Giza, who then worked with over 800 students. In Menofeya, THACE trained 39 teachers, principals, and NGO leaders February 2-4, 2005.

On February 14, 2005, THACE co-hosted a workshop entitled “The Relation Between Civic Education and Human Rights” for 60 teachers, principals, and NGO and MOE representatives from Cairo and Giza.

In addition, THACE signed an agreement with the Ministry of Social Affairs to include Ministry representatives in training workshops.

Jordan

In Jordan, the number of public and private schools implementing Project Citizen is increasing and implementation of Foundations of Democracy has begun in elementary schools. During this period, 19 previously-trained private school teachers attended a follow-up meeting, the Ministry of Education agreed on implementation in 160 public schools with over 500 teachers, the Jubilee School agreed on implementation with over 200 students, and over 500 students at the University of Jordan continue to participate in an adapted form of Project Citizen with a grant from the National Endowment for Democracy.

The Jordanian Center for Civic Education Studies conducted a Project Citizen training workshop for 25 private school teachers from 12 schools on January 29-31, a Project Citizen workshop for 21 University of Jordan student trainers February 15-17, a Project Citizen workshop for 10 young adult refugees through Care International on April 22-24, and two Foundations of Democracy workshops for 37 teachers in 14 private schools. The Foundations training was divided into two thematically based sessions: one on privacy on March 17-19 and another on responsibility on March 31 – April 2.

Collaboration with the Ministry of Education has grown stronger, and negotiations are underway with the Ministry of Political Development to further expand civic education programs in public schools.

Morocco

During this quarter, the Moroccan Center for Civic Education (MCCE) completed implementation of Project Citizen and Foundations of Democracy in all five regions: Casablanca, Mohammedia, El Jadida, Safi, and Rabat. The 80 teachers using Project Citizen completed classroom implementation and regional coordinators organized final support and follow-up meetings. The 75 primary school teachers using Foundations of Democracy also had additional training and support meetings and completed classroom implementation in June 2005, the end of the school year in Morocco.

On May 19-23, 2005, MCCE’s regional coordinators hosted regional Project Citizen portfolio showcases in which student groups presented their project portfolios to a panel of judges comprised of community members and local officials. In total, 77 schools took part in the regional Project Citizen showcases. The winners of these regional showcases participated in a national showcase at the Academy for Education and Training in Casablanca on May 26. The audience included the Wali of Casablanca, the Mayor, the Governors, the Directors of

Academies, NGO leaders, Deputy Ministers of Education, educators, Council members, Parliamentarians, company managers, and students' parents.

During this period, Project Citizen training also began in Safi, Rabat, El Jedida, Mohammedia, and Casablanca, and regional program coordinators were appointed to implement teacher training and post-training support. Additionally, MCCE is networking with thirteen NGOs to integrate civic education into their activities and is training English teachers to integrate civic education concepts into the curriculum.

Saudi Arabia

In April 2005, after over six months of consultation, Jay Taylor, the Program Manager for Arab Civitas, obtained a visa and made the first site visit by Center staff to Saudi Arabia.

In Saudi Arabia, Mr. Taylor met with representatives from the U.S. Embassy and the Ministry of Education, where he received a positive response regarding the Arab Civitas network and ideas for Project Citizen trainings at individual schools in August and September 2005. Mr. Taylor also met with Dr. Ali Al-Karni of the Kingdom School and Dr. Ilham Al-Dakheel of the Asrary School for Girls and discussed plans for conducting teacher trainings and implementing Project Citizen in their schools in the upcoming school year.

As a result of these meetings, five Saudi participants attended the Center's Ninth Annual World Congress on Civic Education in Amman, Jordan on June 2-6, 2005. There, they had the opportunity to interact with civic education practitioners from over 28 U.S. states and 58 countries and to learn more about Civitas Program objectives, projects, and materials. The participants were: Abdul Khader Al-Bakree, Director General of Dar Al Fikr Schools; Mohammad Khateeb, Director General of the King Faisal School; Saleh Al Quraishi of the King Abdulaziz Public Library; Saad Al Madhi, General Director of Training and Scholarship for the Ministry of Education; and Sulaiman Al Khudair, Supervisor of National Education for the Ministry of Education.

Mr. Taylor's visit to Saudi Arabia was very well supported by the Public Affairs staff and the Center greatly appreciates their efforts on behalf of the Arab Civitas program.

Tunisia

The first major event for the program in Tunisia was a Project Citizen workshop conducted October 12-15 for 25 participants, including school principals, senior teachers, and Ministry of Education officials. The workshop focused on the importance of Project Citizen as an activity to enhance citizenship skills and dispositions.

Mr. Amara Ben Romdhane, the country coordinator, is confident that the success of the October workshop opened doors for Project Citizen to be adapted for use in all national schools. Mr. Romdhane also began discussions with the Arab Institute for Human Rights in order to conduct his programs under their auspices.

West Bank

During this period, the Teacher Creativity Center (TCC) strengthened ties with the Palestinian Authority Ministry of Education, which is now planning to adopt the Center's programs in the national curriculum in the West Bank and Gaza.

In November, Palestinian versions of Project Citizen and primary level Foundations of Democracy textbooks were adapted and printed. TCC printed 1,000 copies of the Project Citizen teacher's guide, 2,000 copies of the Project Citizen student guide, and 1,000 copies of each of four Foundations of Democracy storybooks.

TCC then completed a series of trainings with teachers and supervisors from 56 schools in the 13 districts of the West Bank: Education Democracy Seminars for 90 civic education teachers (January 13-17, 2005), a Project Citizen workshop for 58 fifth through ninth grade teachers and 13 civic education supervisors (February 17-20), and another Project Citizen workshop for 45 school principals (March 10-11).

This was followed by implementation with fifth through ninth grade students in the 56 schools and a national Project Citizen showcase. The showcase brought one group of students, a teacher, and a principal from one school in each of the 13 districts to Ramallah on May 29, 2005, where the students presented their project portfolios to community and Ministry of Education representatives.

TCC also conducted several Foundations of Democracy trainings: a training for 28 public primary school teachers (April 14-16), a training for 7 private school teachers (April 18, 19, 23 and 25), and a training for 23 civic education teachers in UNRWA schools in Ramallah and Jerusalem. A report on one of the Project Citizen portfolios dealing with the public hospital in Ramallah is included in the appendices.

Yemen

In December 2004, Ms. Suad Al Qedsi, the country coordinator, established a new NGO in order to conduct civic education activities: the Yemen Center for Citizenship and Democracy Training.

Dr. Anisa Dokom and Ms. Maha Al Maktari conducted a Project Citizen training workshop for 30 teachers from 22 schools in Taiz and Ebb in February 2005. After the workshop, 15 sixth through tenth grade classrooms implemented Project Citizen with a total of 521 students participating. Each classroom presented their final portfolios to their entire school, thus exposing 5600-8700 students to the program.

IV. Comparison of Planned and Actual Accomplishments

Activities Planned for This Quarter	Timeline	Status
Regional		
Regional Project Citizen training of trainers workshop	Dec 2004	Completed
Regional Foundations of Democracy training of trainers workshop	Jan 2005	Completed
Arab Civitas Board of Directors Meeting	Mar 2005	Sep 2005
Algeria		
Selection of new country coordinator	Jun 2005	Jul 2005
Bahrain		
Adaptation of Project Citizen and Foundations of Democracy	Oct 2004-Mar 2005	Completed
Second Project Citizen training workshop	Oct 2004-Mar 2005	Delayed
Implementation of Project Citizen in schools	Jan-Jun 2005	Delayed
Egypt		
Monthly visits to club sites	Oct 2004-Jan 2006	Ongoing
Civic education workshops in partnership w/ NGOs	October 2004-January 2006	Ongoing
Project Citizen training for 400 school teachers and the supervising committee from the Ministries of Education and Social Affairs	April 2005-January 2006	Underway
Foundations of Democracy training and implementation in Menofeya, Cairo, and Menya	April 2005-January 2006	Underway
Printing Project Citizen books	February – May 2005	Completed
Printing Foundations of Democracy books	April-May 2005	Completed
Jordan		
Project Citizen training for University of Jordan trainers	Sep 2004	Completed
Printing Foundations of Democracy books	Oct 2004	Completed
Follow-up on last year's Project Citizen and Foundations trainings and implementation	Nov 2004	Completed
Printing additional Project Citizen books	Jan 2005	Completed
Project Citizen training for private schools teachers	Jan 2005	Completed
Project Citizen training for new University of Jordan trainers	Feb 2005	Completed

Follow-up on Project Citizen in schools	Feb 2005	Completed
Foundations of Democracy training for MOE teachers	Mar 2005	Completed
Lebanon		
Project Citizen teacher training (Ministry of Education)	Nov-Dec 2004	Completed
Implementation of Project Citizen in public schools	Dec 2004-May 2005	Completed
Project Citizen teacher training (Catholic Union)	Nov 2004	Completed
Implementation of Project Citizen in Catholic schools	Dec 2004-May 2005	Completed
Project Citizen teacher training (Mabarat Schools)	Dec 2004	Completed
Implementation of Project Citizen in Mabarat Schools	Dec 2004-May 2005	Completed
Project Citizen teacher training (Imam Al Sadr Foundation)	Dec 2004	Completed
Implementation of Project Citizen in Imam Al Sadr schools	Dec 2004-May 2005	Completed
Project Citizen youth leader training (Lebanese Scouts)	Feb – Mar 2005	Completed
Morocco		
Implementation of <i>Project Citizen</i> in 15 schools in each district	Oct 2004-Apr 2005	Completed
Implementation of Foundations of Democracy in each district	Dec 2004-Jun 2005	Completed
Training sessions for Project Citizen showcase judges	May 2005	Completed
Regional Project Citizen student showcases	May-Jun 2005	Completed
National Project Citizen student showcase	May-Jun 2005	Completed
Country coordinator attendance at training workshops	Oct 2004-Jul 2005	Underway
International delegation visit to the US	April 2005	Completed
Adaptation of Project Citizen and Foundations of Democracy	Oct 2004-Jan 2005	Completed
Saudi Arabia		
Fact-finding visit	Apr 2005	Completed
Selection of country coordinator	May 2005	Postponed
Participation in the World Congress on Civic Education	June 2005	Completed
Tunisia		
Project Citizen workshop	Oct 2004	Completed
Adaptation and printing of Project Citizen material	Dec 2004-Feb 2005	Underway
West Bank		

Printing Foundations of Democracy storybooks	Oct 2004	Completed
Education for Democracy training	Jan 2005	Completed
Project Citizen training	Mar 2005	Completed
Foundations of Democracy training	Mar 2005	Completed
Project Citizen local showcases	Mar-Apr 2005	Completed
Project Citizen national showcase	Jun-Jul 2005	Completed
Yemen		
Project Citizen seminar for raising public awareness	Dec 2004	Completed
Project Citizen training for teachers	Feb 2005	Completed
Implementation of Project Citizen in schools	Mar – May 2005	Completed

Algeria

Center staff planned to make a site visit to select a country coordinator for Algeria in June 2005. However, due to staff schedules, this was postponed to the following month.

Bahrain

Implementation of Project Citizen in the schools has been delayed in Bahrain due to the delay in approval from the Ministry of Education as an official NGO. The Bahrain program expects this approval and now plans to implement Project Citizen in the schools beginning in the new school year (September 2005).

Saudi Arabia

Selection of a country coordinator was preliminarily planned for May 2005 prior to the initial fact-finding visit in April. Potential coordinators were not identified during the April fact-finding visit due to a limited time in the country. A coordinator may be selected in August – September during planned visits for Project Citizen training sessions if visits by Center and Arab Civitas Regional Office staff can be coordinated with these sessions.

V. Activities Planned for Next Quarter

In the next quarter, programmatic activity will be minimal due to summer holidays in the schools where most of the Arab Civitas programs are implemented. Each country program will conduct some follow-up and evaluation activities, as well as focusing on organizational concerns and planning for activities in the upcoming school year.

Regional

The Regional Office is planning an Arab Civitas Board of Directors meeting for September 23-27, 2005.

Algeria

At the beginning of the next quarter, the Center and Arab Civitas, working with the Public Affairs Officer in Algeria, will look for a new country coordinator for Algeria. The Arab Civitas Regional Director and a member of the Center's Arab Civitas team will visit Algeria to begin the process of interviewing and briefing individuals interested in coordinating the Algeria program. In this process Center and Arab Civitas staff will stress to candidates the importance of regular and substantive communication on program issues with the regional coordinator, the president of the board of directors, and Center staff.

After selecting a country coordinator, we plan to conduct initial five-day Project Citizen trainings for 20 teachers and 10 school administrators at three sites and begin implementation in the new school year, starting from September 2005. We also hope that the country coordinator will begin adapting an Algerian version of Project Citizen student and teacher books.

During the aforementioned staff visits to Algeria, Center and Arab Civitas staff will also work with the Public Affairs Officer to revive the possibility of organizing a visit of two or three Algerian civic educators to the U.S. to consult with Center staff and to see civic education programs in action in American classrooms.

Bahrain

The program coordinator in Bahrain plans to print additional copies of materials and develop the schedule for a Project Citizen teacher training workshop, pending approval from the Ministry of Education.

Egypt

THACE is planning a national Project Citizen portfolio showcase for July 2005.

Jordan

JCCES will continue planning the national Project Citizen student portfolio showcase, to be held in July 2005. With the completion of Project Citizen and Foundations of Democracy programs for the 2004-2005 school year, JCCES will also coordinate follow-up and compilation of program evaluations.

Lebanon

The Scouts of Lebanon, who were trained in Project Citizen in February-March 2005, will implement Project Citizen with the scout troops during their summer camps.

Morocco

With the completion of Project Citizen and Foundations of Democracy implementation for the 2004-2005 school year, MCCE will now collect and compile evaluations of the programs from all applicable schools in the five regions.

MCCE is also planning a Summer Institute on August 21-28 for 25 newly graduated teachers-in-training from the English department of the Teacher Training College. The theme of the institute will be education for democracy and human rights. Training sessions will focus on helping

teachers integrate Project Citizen into English instruction. These teachers will then be able to use Project Citizen with their students when they are appointed to positions throughout Morocco.

Saudi Arabia

At least two Project Citizen teacher trainings are planned for August and September 2005. The Kingdom School, the Asrary School for Girls, the King Faisal School, and Dar Al Fikr School have all expressed interest in having Arab Civitas master trainers conduct a Project Citizen training for teachers in their schools.

Also planned is the possible selection of a country coordinator for Saudi Arabia. Once this coordinator is chosen, he or she can begin working on a Saudi adaptation of Project Citizen student and teacher books.

Tunisia

No major programmatic activity is planned for the next quarter.

West Bank

TCC has no major programmatic activities planned. However, they will conduct some follow-up with teachers and analyze teacher and student evaluations of Project Citizen and Foundations of Democracy training sessions and implementation.

Yemen

The Yemen Center for Citizenship and Democracy Training plans to conduct a Foundations of Democracy training workshop for primary school teachers in Sana'a, Taiz, Ebb, and Eden.

VI. Success Stories/Lessons Learned

The regional workshops in Cairo and Casablanca were a new initiative for the Center, and generated positive results. The regional format allowed the Center to recruit two of its best trainers, to select excellent conference facilities, to hire top-flight simultaneous translators, and to have educators from all Arab Civitas countries participate in the same, high-level program. The trainers were very impressed by both groups of participants and believe most have the potential to be excellent trainers in their home countries.

The regional workshops also promoted the sense of "region" that is crucial to the success of Arab Civitas. Participants from very different political, social, and cultural environments worked and learned together. For the participants, the workshop underscored the advantages of belonging to a network. For the Center, the regional format provided some economy of scale and assurance that the training was conducted at a very disciplined and professional level.

Both Algeria and Saudi Arabia continue to be difficult working environments. In Saudi Arabia, progressive members of the education community appear interested in educational reform and support the gradual introduction of Project Citizen. The Center anticipates that the program will be introduced in Saudi Arabia very cautiously and in carefully controlled environments like private schools.

In Algeria, an appropriate program coordinator has not yet been located. For the time being, the Center will work with the Public Affairs section and through a local facilitator who is more practiced in visits by the international media. The Center's program in Algeria may need to be managed in a different fashion than in other Arab Civitas countries.